

January 24, 2003

The Honorable Greg Nickels Mayor, City of Scattle 600 Fourth Avenue, 12th Floor Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Mayor Nickels:

Mayor Nickels, my name is Larry Fleming and I am the Chief Executive Officer of the Knoxville Utilities Board (KUB), a four service, publicly owned, utility located in Knoxville, Tennessee. In serving over 180,000 electric customers, KUB is one of the twenty-five largest publicly owned utilities in the county. My purpose in writing is to support of the reconfirmation of Gary Zarker as the Superintendent of Seattle City Light.

I have had the pleasure of working with Gary Zarker for the entire eight years Gary has served as Superintendent, primarily through our relationship as members of the Large Public Power Council (LPPC), an organization of publicly owned electric utilities serving over 40 million electric customers across the country. Gary and I have had the opportunity to work together as members of LPPC's Steering Committee, the organization's executive committee. We have made visits to Washington together in support of public power and I have tremendous respect for Gary's knowledge and understanding of the complex issues facing our industry.

As a representative of Seattle and the Northwest, Gary has been an advocate for public power and works hard on behalf of his customers. I have always been impressed with Gary's ability to effectively communicate on these complex issues. In my judgment, Gary has made significant contributions to the national energy debate. On a more personal note, I have always valued Gary's insight and suggestions regarding our relationship with the Tennessee Valley Authority, which has often times mirrored the Seattle/BPA relationship.

As you can tell, I am a fan of Gary Zarker and based on my professional and personal experience, I fully support his reconfirmation.

Sincerely,

President and CEO

C: The Honorable Heidi Wills, Seattle City Council